

TALES OF THE UNUSUAL

STORY/ART BY SUNGDAE OH

LURKER: PART 1





IT'S EXPECTED
TO BE AROUND
CLASS B.

OUR CLASS A AND
B PERSONNEL ARE ALL
OUT ON ASSIGNMENTS
RIGHT NOW.

YOU MAY
BE CLASS C, BUT
YOU HAVE A PROMOTION
COMING UP SO IT'LL BE
WORTH TRYING.



SSK

A hand is shown placing a dark-colored file folder onto a light-colored surface. The sound effect 'SSK' is written in a stylized, handwritten font above the hand.

THIS IS A FILE
WITH TESTIMONY
FROM THE CLIENT.

TWO PEOPLE
HAVE ALREADY DIED
AND FOUR HAVE BEEN
INJURED...IT'S EVOLVING
QUICKLY.



A man with dark hair and a serious expression is looking at a laptop screen. A speech bubble is coming from the right side of the frame.

IF YOU FEEL THAT
IT'S TOO DANGEROUS,
COME RIGHT BACK HERE
AND DON'T PUSH
YOURSELF.

IT SEEMS
PRETTY STRONG
FOR A CLASS B
LURKER.

IF YOU JUST
HANDLE THIS CASE WELL
YOU WILL BE PROMOTED
TO A CLASS B MANAGER
TOO.

FIRST,
CONTACT AND MEET
THE CLIENT.

AUG. 4, 2016 LKR HYUNA

YES, SIR.



A man in a dark suit and white shirt is speaking in a meeting. He is looking towards the right. In the background, there are other people, mostly seen from behind or in silhouette, sitting at a long table. The setting appears to be a modern office or conference room with large windows in the background.

YES, WE'RE A
PRIVATE EXORCISM
COMPANY,

WE'RE
FOCUSING ON
ERADICATING THE
LURKERS WHICH HAVE
BEEN APPEARING
OFTEN LATELY.

LURKERS...
ARE THEY
SOME KIND OF
DEMON?

A man with dark hair, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and dark tie, is speaking. He is looking towards a woman whose profile is visible on the left side of the frame. They are in a classroom setting with other students and a whiteboard in the background.

SIMILAR,
BUT A BIT DIFFERENT.
THE THING ABOUT LURKERS
IS THAT YOU CAN'T GET
RID OF THEM USING A
TRADITIONAL RELIGIOUS
EXORCISM.

ALSO, RATHER
THAN USING HUMANS AS
A HOST, IT HIDES IN SOME
NEARBY MEDIUM AND
HARMS PEOPLE.

A black and white manga-style illustration of two men in a hallway. The man on the left is seen in profile, looking towards the right. The man on the right is also in profile, facing the first man. They are both wearing dark jackets over light-colored shirts. The background shows a simple hallway with a door.

WHY WOULD
SOMETHING LIKE THIS
HAPPEN TO MY
SISTER..?

ALL I CAN
SAY IS THAT SHE WAS
UNLUCKY...

A black and white manga-style illustration showing a close-up of a man's face. He has dark hair and a serious, somewhat stern expression. He is wearing a dark suit jacket over a white collared shirt. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a hallway or office setting.

I'LL HAVE TO
CHECK TO KNOW FOR SURE,
BUT FOR NOW, THERE'S A
CHANCE THAT IT'S A CLASS
B LURKER

JUST SO
YOU KNOW,
LURKERS GRADUALLY
EVOLVE AS THEY
HARM PEOPLE.



AT FIRST,
THEY POSSESS A LOW
LEVEL OF INTELLIGENCE
AND EMOTION...

BUT THE MORE
PEOPLE THEY KILL, THE
STRONGER AND SMARTER
THEY BECOME.



IT'S ALREADY
QUITE THREATENING
RIGHT NOW, BUT THE
MOMENT IT EVOLVES AND
OPENS ITS EYES..

NOT EVEN
SEVERAL EXORCISTS
LIKE ME COULD
STOP IT.

IT'S URGENT
THAT WE GET RID
OF IT, SO LEAD
ME TO IT.





SHE LOOKS
FINE ON THE
OUTSIDE...



BUT HER EYES
HAVE A RED LIGHT
IN THEM..

THAT'S PROOF
THAT SHE'S UNDER
THE INFLUENCE
OF A LURKER.



FIRST, I'LL
HAVE TO SEE WHERE
EXACTLY THE LURKER
IS HIDING.

LURKERS
CAN HIDE IN OTHER
OBJECTS ASIDE FROM
LIVING BEINGS.

THEY CAN
HIDE IN ALL KINDS
OF THINGS, BOTH
ARTIFICIAL AND
NATURAL.



WE'VE RECEIVED
REPORTS OF THEM HIDING
IN EVERYTHING FROM HUMAN
AND ANIMAL CORPSES
TO LIQUIDS.



HYUNA,
CAN YOU FEEL
WHERE EXACTLY
IT IS?



NOT... EXACTLY,

BUT SINCE PEOPLE
AROUND ME HAVE BEEN
HARMED, IT LOOKS LIKE THE
PROBLEM IS WITH ME.

A close-up comic book panel of a man with a stern expression. He has dark hair, a high forehead, and a serious look. His eyes are looking slightly to the left. The background is dark and indistinct.

IT'S NOT
BECAUSE OF YOU.
IT'S THE LURKER
THAT'S EVIL.

YOU WILL LOSE
CONSCIOUSNESS FOR
A MOMENT DURING THE
BANISHING RITUAL. SO
THERE'S NO NEED
TO BE AFRAID.





IT'S A TEST.
CLASS B LURKERS
DON'T HAVE VERY HIGH
OBJECT AWARENESS,
BUT THEY'RE VERY
DESTRUCTIVE.

IT COULD
BE DANGEROUS TO
GET INVOLVED TOO
QUICKLY.

AHH...

AT ITS CURRENT
STAGE, IT SHOULD
RECOGNIZE THIS
AS A HUMAN.

IT'S BASICALLY
BAIT TO TRICK THE
LURKER.

A man in a dark suit and white shirt is pointing his right index finger towards the back of another man. The second man, seen from behind, is also wearing a dark suit. They are in a room with a light-colored wall. On the wall, there are two framed pictures: a larger one of a person in a dark suit and a smaller one of a person in a light-colored shirt. A doorway is visible in the background.

WE'RE GOING
TO GO INTO THE ROOM
AND LEAVE HYUNA AND THIS
PUPPET ALONE IN THE
LIVING ROOM.

ALRIGHT.



YOU WHO
ARE HIDDEN.



THAT IS NO
PLACE FOR YOU
TO BE.

MALICIOUS
ONE.



THERE IS
NO PLACE FOR
YOU HERE.



YOU WHO
THRIVES ON
CHAOS, HATRED
AND RAGE.

A black and white manga-style illustration of two men in suits. The man on the left is seated at a desk, looking at a laptop. The man on the right is standing behind him, looking down at the laptop. A speech bubble from the standing man contains the text. In the background, there is a clock on the wall and a filing cabinet.



FROM NOW ON,
WE WILL DENY YOUR
EXISTENCE ACCORDING
TO THE NATURAL
ORDER.

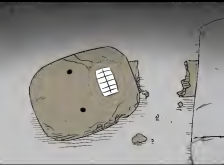
A black and white manga-style illustration showing a close-up of a man's face from the side. He has a serious expression. A speech bubble from him contains the text. The background is dark and indistinct.

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a white long-sleeved top and dark trousers, is sitting on a dark grey modular sofa. She is in a modern, minimalist interior with light-colored walls and floor. To her left is a tall, thin floor lamp with a black base and a white shade. To her right is a dark wooden table. The scene is captured from a high angle, looking down at the woman.

SACRÉ
HARMONIE
VÉRITÉ.

YOU MUST
IMMEDIATELY...

CRACKLE-





IT COMPLETELY
DESTROYED IT..

HM.. THE
LURKER IS IN..





PSSS

A person's legs, wearing dark pants, are shown from the knees down. They are standing on a light gray floor. Their feet are bare and appear slightly pinkish. A dark, irregular shadow is cast on the floor to the left of their feet. The text 'PSSS' is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font above the shadow.

A SHADOW..!?

To be continued..



LINE Webtoon